



03500.015966

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	Examiner: A. Sefer
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Takahiro HACHISU et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 2826
	:	
Application No.: 09/988,107	)	Allowed: April 1, 2004
	:	
Filed: November 19, 2001	)	Confirmation No.: 8065
	:	
For: LIQUID CRYSTAL DEVICE	)	July 1, 2004

**Mail Stop Issue Fee**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

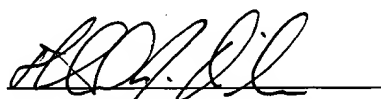
Sir:

In the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance in the attachment to the Notice of Allowability mailed April 1, 2004, the Examiner listed reasons for the allowance of the claims. We agree that the prior art fails to disclose the device structure as recited in claims 1 and 2. However, the Statement is traversed inasmuch as the noted patentable features discussed in the Statement are not explicitly recited in each independent claim. For example, Claims 1 and 2 do not recite "multiple wall structures interposed between two substrates" or "a relation between the volume change of the liquid crystal and the change in height of the wall structure expressed as  $\Delta L$  (wall structure)  $\supseteq \Delta L$  (liquid crystal) so as to prevent void formation due to the phase

change of smectic liquid crystal.” Nevertheless, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the pending claims is allowable for its combination of claimed features.

Applicants’ undersigned attorney may be reached in Washington, D.C. by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to the below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. J. Didas", is written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants  
Michael J. Didas  
Registration No. 55,112

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, New York 10112-3801  
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200  
MHW/MJD:ayr:ksp  
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